

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

No claims are currently being added, canceled or amended.

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9-12, 14 and 15 remain pending in this application.

Claim Rejections – Prior Art:

In the final Office Action, claims 1-4, 8-12 and 14-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 1176493 to Pathuel in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2006/0188077 to Susen et al. and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,325,144 to Irisawa et al.; and claims 6 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pathuel in view of Susen et al. and Irisawa and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,904,526 to Hongwei. These rejections are traversed with respect to the presently pending claims under rejection, for at least the reasons given below.

The Office Action correctly recognizes that Pathuel and Susen et al. do not teach or suggest a controller searching a database for address information related to a telephone number corresponding to a telephone dialing request operation, in which when a password check flag indicates that a password check is needed, starts an unauthorized use preventing operation. However, the Office Action incorrectly asserts that Irisawa et al. teaches these features.

Irisawa et al. describes switching between a requiring mode and a non-requiring mode of password code checking, which is enabled by an IC card with a CPU for accessing an EEPROM. Certain data regions of the EEPROM can be accessed by the IC card without password code checking, and other data regions of the EEPROM can only be accessed by the IC card with password code checking being performed. See Abstract.

With all due respect, the accessing of particular regions in an EEPROM of an IC card connected to a cellular phone in accordance with password checking or non-checking being

performed based on checking flags existing or not existing in those regions of memory, is much different than allowing voice communications to a telephone number. Thus, it is submitted that one skilled in the art would not be motivated to combine Irisawa et al., which teaches the use of password checking or non-checking based on accesses to particular regions of a writable memory provided in an IC card, to telephone call access devices and methods (such as described in Susen et al.) or computer login devices and methods (such as described in Pathuel). Note that Irisawa is concerned about privacy issues related to personal information that may be stored in particular regions of the EEPROM of the IC card, which is not pertinent to the call/no-call features based on password checking being made (or not being made) as recited in the presently pending claims.

Accordingly, since one skilled in the art would not be motivated to combine the teachings of Pathuel, Susen et al. and Irisawa et al. as asserted in the Office Action, the presently pending claims are patentable over the cited art of record, whereby Hongwei does not provide any rationale for making such a combination of Pathuel, Susen et al. and Irisawa et al.

Accordingly, independent claims 1, 9 and 14 are patentable over the cited art of record.

Conclusion:

Since all of the issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed in this Reply, Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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